

287.24

**ARTICLE 10**

287.25

**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

130.11

**ARTICLE 8**

130.12

**EARLY EDUCATION**

S1311-2

114.13

**ARTICLE 8**

114.14

**EARLY CHILDHOOD AND EARLY LEARNING**

UEH2497-1

130.13 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 119A.52, is amended to read:

**119A.52 DISTRIBUTION OF APPROPRIATION.**

130.15 (a) The commissioner of education must distribute money appropriated for that purpose  
130.16 to federally designated Head Start programs to expand services and to serve additional  
130.17 low-income children. ~~Migrant and Indian reservation programs must be initially allocated~~  
130.18 ~~money based on the programs' share of federal funds.~~, which may include costs associated  
130.19 with program operations, infrastructure, or reconfiguration to serve children from birth to  
130.20 age five in center-based services. The distribution must occur in the following order: (1)  
130.21 10.72 percent of the total Head Start appropriation must be initially allocated to federally  
130.22 designated Tribal Head Start programs; (2) the Tribal Head Start portion of the appropriation  
130.23 must be initially allocated to Tribal Head Start programs based on the programs' share of  
130.24 federal funds; and (3) migrant programs must be initially allocated funding based on the  
130.25 programs' share of federal funds. The remaining money must be initially allocated to the  
130.26 remaining local agencies based equally on the agencies' share of federal funds and on the  
130.27 proportion of eligible children in the agencies' service area who are not currently being  
130.28 served. A Head Start program must be funded at a per child rate equal to its contracted,  
130.29 federally funded base level at the start of the fiscal year. For all agencies without a federal  
130.30 Early Head Start rate, the state average federal cost per child for Early Head Start applies.  
130.31 In allocating funds under this paragraph, the commissioner of education must assure that  
130.32 each Head Start program in existence in 1993 is allocated no less funding in any fiscal year  
131.1 than was allocated to that program in fiscal year 1993. Before paying money to the programs,  
131.2 the commissioner must notify each program of its initial allocation and how the money must  
131.3 be used. Each program must present a plan under section 119A.535. For any program that  
131.4 cannot utilize its full allocation at the beginning of the fiscal year, the commissioner must  
131.5 reduce the allocation proportionately. Money available after the initial allocations are reduced  
131.6 must be redistributed to eligible programs.

131.7 (b) The commissioner must develop procedures to make payments to programs based  
131.8 upon the number of children reported to be enrolled during the required time period of  
131.9 program operations. Enrollment is defined by federal Head Start regulations. The procedures  
131.10 must include a reporting schedule, corrective action plan requirements, and financial  
131.11 consequences to be imposed on programs that do not meet full enrollment after the period  
131.12 of corrective action. Programs reporting chronic underenrollment, as defined by the

131.13 commissioner, will have their subsequent program year allocation reduced proportionately.  
131.14 Funds made available by prorating payments and allocations to programs with reported  
131.15 underenrollment will be made available to the extent funds exist to fully enrolled Head Start  
131.16 programs through a form and manner prescribed by the department.

131.17 (c) Programs with approved innovative initiatives that target services to high-risk  
131.18 populations, including homeless families and families living in homeless shelters and  
131.19 transitional housing, are exempt from the procedures in paragraph (b). This exemption does  
131.20 not apply to entire programs. The exemption applies only to approved innovative initiatives  
131.21 that target services to high-risk populations, including homeless families and families living  
131.22 in homeless shelters, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing.

131.23 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 121A.19, is amended to read:

131.24 **121A.19 DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING AID.**

131.25 Each school year, the state must pay a district for each child or student screened by the  
131.26 district according to the requirements of section 121A.17. The amount of state aid for each  
131.27 child or student screened shall be: (1) ~~\$75~~ \$98 for a child screened at age three; (2) ~~\$50~~ \$65  
131.28 for a child screened at age four; (3) ~~\$40~~ \$52 for a child screened at age five or six prior to  
131.29 kindergarten; and (4) ~~\$30~~ \$39 for a student screened within 30 days after first enrolling in  
131.30 a public school kindergarten if the student has not previously been screened according to  
131.31 the requirements of section 121A.17. If this amount of aid is insufficient, the district may  
131.32 permanently transfer from the general fund an amount that, when added to the aid, is  
131.33 sufficient. Developmental screening aid shall not be paid for any student who is screened  
131.34 more than 30 days after the first day of attendance at a public school kindergarten, except  
132.1 if a student transfers to another public school kindergarten within 30 days after first enrolling  
132.2 in a Minnesota public school kindergarten program. In this case, if the student has not been  
132.3 screened, the district to which the student transfers may receive developmental screening  
132.4 aid for screening that student when the screening is performed within 30 days of the transfer  
132.5 date.

S1311-2

115.13 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 124D.141, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

115.14 Subd. 2. **Additional duties.** The following duties are added to those assigned to the  
115.15 council under federal law:

115.16 (1) make recommendations on the most efficient and effective way to leverage state and  
115.17 federal funding streams for early childhood and child care programs;

115.18 ~~(2) make recommendations on how to coordinate or colocate early childhood and child~~  
115.19 ~~care programs in one state Office of Early Learning. The council shall establish a task force~~  
115.20 ~~to develop these recommendations. The task force shall include two nonexecutive branch~~  
115.21 ~~or nonlegislative branch representatives from the council; six representatives from the early~~  
115.22 ~~childhood caucus; two representatives each from the Departments of Education, Human~~

- 115.23 ~~Services, and Health; one representative each from a local public health agency, a local~~  
115.24 ~~county human services agency, and a school district; and two representatives from the~~  
115.25 ~~private nonprofit organizations that support early childhood programs in Minnesota. In~~  
115.26 ~~developing recommendations in coordination with existing efforts of the council, the task~~  
115.27 ~~force shall consider how to:~~
- 115.28 ~~(i) consolidate and coordinate resources and public funding streams for early childhood~~  
115.29 ~~education and child care, and ensure the accountability and coordinated development of all~~  
115.30 ~~early childhood education and child care services to children from birth to kindergarten~~  
115.31 ~~entrance;~~
- 115.32 ~~(ii) create a seamless transition from early childhood programs to kindergarten;~~
- 116.1 ~~(iii) encourage family choice by ensuring a mixed system of high-quality public and~~  
116.2 ~~private programs, with local points of entry, staffed by well-qualified professionals;~~
- 116.3 ~~(iv) ensure parents a decisive role in the planning, operation, and evaluation of programs~~  
116.4 ~~that aid families in the care of children;~~
- 116.5 ~~(v) provide consumer education and accessibility to early childhood education and child~~  
116.6 ~~care resources;~~
- 116.7 ~~(vi) advance the quality of early childhood education and child care programs in order~~  
116.8 ~~to support the healthy development of children and preparation for their success in school;~~
- 116.9 ~~(vii) develop a seamless service delivery system with local points of entry for early~~  
116.10 ~~childhood education and child care programs administered by local, state, and federal~~  
116.11 ~~agencies;~~
- 116.12 ~~(viii) ensure effective collaboration between state and local child welfare programs and~~  
116.13 ~~early childhood mental health programs and the Office of Early Learning;~~
- 116.14 ~~(ix) develop and manage an effective data collection system to support the necessary~~  
116.15 ~~functions of a coordinated system of early childhood education and child care in order to~~  
116.16 ~~enable accurate evaluation of its impact;~~
- 116.17 ~~(x) respect and be sensitive to family values and cultural heritage; and~~
- 116.18 ~~(xi) establish the administrative framework for and promote the development of early~~  
116.19 ~~childhood education and child care services in order to provide that these services, staffed~~  
116.20 ~~by well-qualified professionals, are available in every community for all families that express~~  
116.21 ~~a need for them.~~
- 116.22 ~~In addition, the task force must consider the following responsibilities for transfer to the~~  
116.23 ~~Office of Early Learning:~~

- 116.24 ~~(A) responsibilities of the commissioner of education for early childhood education~~  
116.25 ~~programs and financing under sections 119A.50 to 119A.535, 121A.16 to 121A.19, and~~  
116.26 ~~124D.129 to 124D.221;~~
- 116.27 ~~(B) responsibilities of the commissioner of human services for child care assistance,~~  
116.28 ~~child care development, and early childhood learning and child protection facilities programs~~  
116.29 ~~and financing under chapter 119B and section 256E.37; and~~
- 116.30 ~~(C) responsibilities of the commissioner of health for family home visiting programs~~  
116.31 ~~and financing under section 145A.17.~~
- 117.1 ~~Any costs incurred by the council in making these recommendations must be paid from~~  
117.2 ~~private funds. If no private funds are received, the council must not proceed in making these~~  
117.3 ~~recommendations. The council must report its recommendations to the governor and the~~  
117.4 ~~legislature by January 15, 2011;~~
- 117.5 ~~(2)~~ (2) review program evaluations regarding high-quality early childhood programs;
- 117.6 ~~(4)~~ (3) make recommendations to the governor and legislature, including proposed  
117.7 legislation on how to most effectively create a high-quality early childhood system in  
117.8 Minnesota in order to improve the educational outcomes of children so that all children are  
117.9 school-ready by 2020; and
- 117.10 (5) make recommendations to the governor and the legislature by March 1, 2011, on the  
117.11 creation and implementation of a statewide school readiness report card to monitor progress  
117.12 toward the goal of having all children ready for kindergarten by the year 2020. The  
117.13 recommendations shall include what should be measured including both children and system  
117.14 indicators, what benchmarks should be established to measure state progress toward the  
117.15 goal, and how frequently the report card should be published. In making their  
117.16 recommendations, the council shall consider the indicators and strategies for Minnesota's  
117.17 early childhood system report, the Minnesota school readiness study, developmental  
117.18 assessment at kindergarten entrance, and the work of the council's accountability committee.  
117.19 Any costs incurred by the council in making these recommendations must be paid from  
117.20 private funds. If no private funds are received, the council must not proceed in making these  
117.21 recommendations; and
- 117.22 (6) make recommendations to the governor and the legislature on how to screen earlier  
117.23 and comprehensively assess children for school readiness in order to provide increased early  
117.24 interventions and increase the number of children ready for kindergarten. In formulating  
117.25 their recommendations, the council shall consider (i) ways to interface with parents of  
117.26 children who are not participating in early childhood education or care programs, (ii) ways  
117.27 to interface with family child care providers, child care centers, and school-based early  
117.28 childhood and Head Start programs, (iii) if there are age-appropriate and culturally sensitive  
117.29 screening and assessment tools for three-, four-, and five-year-olds, (iv) the role of the  
117.30 medical community in screening, (v) incentives for parents to have children screened at an  
117.31 earlier age, (vi) incentives for early education and care providers to comprehensively assess

287.26 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 124D.151, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

287.27 Subd. 6. **Participation limits.** (a) Notwithstanding section 126C.05, subdivision 1,  
287.28 paragraph (d), the pupil units for a voluntary prekindergarten program for an eligible school  
287.29 district or charter school must not exceed 60 percent of the kindergarten pupil units for that  
287.30 school district or charter school under section 126C.05, subdivision 1, paragraph (e).

288.1 (b) In reviewing applications under subdivision 5, the commissioner must limit the total  
288.2 number of participants in the voluntary prekindergarten and school readiness plus programs  
288.3 under Laws 2017, First Special Session chapter 5, article 8, section 9, to not more than 7,160  
288.4 participants for fiscal years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023, and 3,160 participants for  
288.5 fiscal years 2024 and later 2023 and 2024, and 12,360 participants for fiscal year 2025 and  
288.6 later.

288.7 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2024 and later.

117.32 children in order to improve instructional practice, (vii) how to phase in increases in screening  
117.33 and assessment over time, (viii) how the screening and assessment data will be collected  
117.34 and used and who will have access to the data, (ix) how to monitor progress toward the goal  
117.35 of having 50 percent of three-year-old children screened and 50 percent of entering  
118.1 kindergarteners assessed for school readiness by 2015 and 100 percent of three-year-old  
118.2 children screened and entering kindergarteners assessed for school readiness by 2020, and  
118.3 (x) costs to meet these benchmarks. The council shall consider the screening instruments  
118.4 and comprehensive assessment tools used in Minnesota early childhood education and care  
118.5 programs and kindergarten. The council may survey early childhood education and care  
118.6 programs in the state to determine the screening and assessment tools being used or rely on  
118.7 previously collected survey data, if available. For purposes of this subdivision, "school  
118.8 readiness" is defined as the child's skills, knowledge, and behaviors at kindergarten entrance  
118.9 in these areas of child development: social; self-regulation; cognitive, including language;  
118.10 literacy, and mathematical thinking; and physical. For purposes of this subdivision,  
118.11 "screening" is defined as the activities used to identify a child who may need further  
118.12 evaluation to determine delay in development or disability. For purposes of this subdivision,  
118.13 "assessment" is defined as the activities used to determine a child's level of performance in  
118.14 order to promote the child's learning and development. Work on this duty will begin in  
118.15 fiscal year 2012. Any costs incurred by the council in making these recommendations must  
118.16 be paid from private funds. If no private funds are received, the council must not proceed  
118.17 in making these recommendations. The council must report its recommendations to the  
118.18 governor and legislature by January 15, 2013, with an interim report on February 15, 2011.  
118.19 (4) review and provide input on the recommendations and implementation timelines  
118.20 developed by the Great Start For All Minnesota Children Task Force under Laws 2021,  
118.21 First Special Session chapter 7, article 14, section 18, subdivision 2.

UEH2497-1

132.6 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 124D.151, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

132.7 Subd. 6. **Participation limits.** (a) Notwithstanding section 126C.05, subdivision 1,  
132.8 paragraph (d), the pupil units for a voluntary prekindergarten program for an eligible school  
132.9 district or charter school must not exceed 60 percent of the kindergarten pupil units for that  
132.10 school district or charter school under section 126C.05, subdivision 1, paragraph (e).

132.11 (b) In reviewing applications under subdivision 5, the commissioner must limit the total  
132.12 number of participants in the voluntary prekindergarten and school readiness plus programs  
132.13 under Laws 2017, First Special Session chapter 5, article 8, section 9, to not more than 7,160  
132.14 participants for fiscal years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023, and 3,160 participants for  
132.15 fiscal years 2024 and later per fiscal year.

132.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2024 and later.

- 132.17 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 124D.165, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
- 132.18 Subd. 2. **Family eligibility.** (a) For a family to receive an early learning scholarship,
- 132.19 parents or guardians must meet the following eligibility requirements:
- 132.20 (1) have an eligible child; and
- 132.21 (2) have income equal to or less than ~~185~~ 200 percent of federal poverty level income
- 132.22 in the current calendar year, or be able to document their child's current participation in the
- 132.23 free and reduced-price lunch program or Child and Adult Care Food Program, National
- 132.24 School Lunch Act, United States Code, title 42, sections 1751 and 1766; the Food
- 132.25 Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, Food and Nutrition Act, United States Code,
- 132.26 title 7, sections 2011-2036; Head Start under the federal Improving Head Start for School
- 132.27 Readiness Act of 2007; Minnesota family investment program under chapter 256J; child
- 132.28 care assistance programs under chapter 119B; the supplemental nutrition assistance program;
- 132.29 or placement in foster care under section 260C.212.
- 132.30 (b) An "eligible child" means a child who has not yet enrolled in kindergarten and is:
- 132.31 ~~(1) at least three but not yet five years of age on September 1 of the current school year;~~
- 133.1 ~~(2) a sibling from birth to age five of a child who has been awarded a scholarship under~~
- 133.2 ~~this section provided the sibling attends the same program as long as funds are available;~~
- 133.3 ~~(3) the child of a parent under age 21 who is pursuing a high school degree or a course~~
- 133.4 ~~of study for a high school equivalency test; or~~
- 133.5 ~~(4) homeless, in foster care, or in need of child protective services.~~
- 133.6 (c) A child who has received a scholarship under this section must continue to receive
- 133.7 a scholarship each year until that child is eligible for kindergarten under section 120A.20
- 133.8 and as long as funds are available.
- 133.9 (d) Early learning scholarships may not be counted as earned income for the purposes
- 133.10 of medical assistance under chapter 256B, MinnesotaCare under chapter 256L, Minnesota
- 133.11 family investment program under chapter 256J, child care assistance programs under chapter
- 133.12 119B, or Head Start under the federal Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of
- 133.13 2007.
- 133.14 (e) A child from an adjoining state whose family resides at a Minnesota address as
- 133.15 assigned by the United States Postal Service, who has received developmental screening
- 133.16 under sections 121A.16 to 121A.19, who intends to enroll in a Minnesota school district,
- 133.17 and whose family meets the criteria of paragraph (a) is eligible for an early learning
- 133.18 scholarship under this section.

S1311-2

- 118.22 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 124D.165, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
- 118.23 Subd. 2. **Family eligibility.** (a) For a family to receive an early learning scholarship,
- 118.24 parents or guardians must have an eligible child and meet at least one of the following
- 118.25 eligibility requirements:
- 118.26 ~~(1) have an eligible child; and~~
- 118.27 ~~(2) (1) have income equal to or less than 185 200 percent of federal poverty level income~~
- 118.28 ~~in the current calendar year; or;~~
- 118.29 (2) be able to document their child's current participation in the free and reduced-price
- 118.30 lunch meal program or Child and Adult Care Food Program, National School Lunch Act,
- 118.31 United States Code, title 42, sections 1751 and 1766; the Food Distribution Program on
- 118.32 Indian Reservations, Food and Nutrition Act, United States Code, title 7, sections 2011-2036;
- 118.33 Head Start under the federal Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007;
- 119.1 Minnesota family investment program under chapter 256J; child care assistance programs
- 119.2 under chapter 119B; the supplemental nutrition assistance program; or placement
- 119.3 (3) have a child referred as in need of child protection services or placed in foster care
- 119.4 under section 260C.212.
- 119.5 (b) An "eligible child" means a child who has not yet enrolled in kindergarten and is:
- 119.6 ~~(1) at least three but not yet five years of age on September 1 of the current school year;~~
- 119.7 ~~(2) a sibling from birth to age five of a child who has been awarded a scholarship under~~
- 119.8 ~~this section provided the sibling attends the same program as long as funds are available;~~
- 119.9 ~~(3) the child of a parent under age 21 who is pursuing a high school degree or a course~~
- 119.10 ~~of study for a high school equivalency test; or~~
- 119.11 ~~(4) homeless, in foster care, or in need of child protective services.~~
- 119.12 (c) A child who has received a scholarship under this section must continue to receive
- 119.13 a scholarship each year until that child is eligible for kindergarten under section 120A.20
- 119.14 and as long as funds are available.
- 119.15 (d) Early learning scholarships may not be counted as earned income for the purposes
- 119.16 of medical assistance under chapter 256B, MinnesotaCare under chapter 256L, Minnesota
- 119.17 family investment program under chapter 256J, child care assistance programs under chapter
- 119.18 119B, or Head Start under the federal Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of
- 119.19 2007.
- 119.20 (e) A child from an adjoining state whose family resides at a Minnesota address as
- 119.21 assigned by the United States Postal Service, who has received developmental screening
- 119.22 under sections 121A.16 to 121A.19, who intends to enroll in a Minnesota school district,

119.23 and whose family meets the criteria of paragraph (a) is eligible for an early learning  
119.24 scholarship under this section.

119.25 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 124D.165, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

119.26 Subd. 3. **Administration.** (a) The commissioner shall establish application timelines  
119.27 and determine the schedule for awarding scholarships that meets operational needs of eligible  
119.28 families and programs. The commissioner must give highest priority to applications from  
119.29 children who:

119.30 (1) are not yet four years of age;

120.1 ~~(1)~~ (2) have a parent under age 21 who is pursuing a high school diploma or a course of  
120.2 study for a high school equivalency test;

120.3 ~~(2)~~ (3) are in foster care ~~or otherwise~~;

120.4 (4) have been referred as in need of child protection ~~or~~ services; ~~or~~

120.5 (5) have an incarcerated parent; or

120.6 ~~(3)~~ (6) have experienced homelessness in the last 24 months, as defined under the federal  
120.7 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, United States Code, title 42, section 11434a.

120.8 (b) The commissioner may prioritize applications on additional factors including family  
120.9 income, geographic location, and whether the child's family is on a waiting list for a publicly  
120.10 funded program providing early education or child care services.

120.11 ~~(b)~~ (c) The commissioner shall establish a target for the average scholarship amount per  
120.12 child based on the results of the rate survey conducted under section 119B.02.

120.13 ~~(c)~~ (d) A four-star rated program that has children eligible for a scholarship enrolled in  
120.14 or on a waiting list for a program beginning in July, August, or September may notify the  
120.15 commissioner, in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, each year of the  
120.16 program's desire to enhance program services or to serve more children than current funding  
120.17 provides. The commissioner may designate a predetermined number of scholarship slots  
120.18 for that program and notify the program of that number. For fiscal year 2018 and later, the  
120.19 statewide amount of funding directly designated by the commissioner must not exceed the  
120.20 funding directly designated for fiscal year 2017. Beginning July 1, 2016, a school district  
120.21 or Head Start program qualifying under this paragraph may use its established registration  
120.22 process to enroll scholarship recipients and may verify a scholarship recipient's family  
120.23 income in the same manner as for other program participants.

120.24 ~~(d)~~ (e) A scholarship is awarded for a 12-month period. If the scholarship recipient has  
120.25 not been accepted and subsequently enrolled in a rated program within ~~ten~~ three months of  
120.26 the awarding of the scholarship, the scholarship cancels and the recipient must reapply in  
120.27 order to be eligible for another scholarship. An extension can be requested if a program is

- 120.28 ~~unavailable for the child within the three-month timeline. A child may not be awarded more~~  
120.29 ~~than one scholarship in a 12-month period.~~
- 120.30 ~~(e)~~ (f) A child who receives a scholarship who has not completed development screening  
120.31 under sections 121A.16 to 121A.19 must complete that screening within 90 days of first  
120.32 attending an eligible program or within 90 days after the child's third birthday if awarded  
120.33 a scholarship under the age of three.
- 121.1 ~~(f)~~ (g) For fiscal year 2017 and later, a school district or Head Start program enrolling  
121.2 scholarship recipients under paragraph (c) may apply to the commissioner, in the form and  
121.3 manner prescribed by the commissioner, for direct payment of state aid. Upon receipt of  
121.4 the application, the commissioner must pay each program directly for each approved  
121.5 scholarship recipient enrolled under paragraph (c) according to the metered payment system  
121.6 or another schedule established by the commissioner.

UEH2497-1

- 133.19 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 124D.165, subdivision 3, is amended to read:
- 133.20 Subd. 3. **Administration.** (a) The commissioner shall establish application timelines  
133.21 and determine the schedule for awarding scholarships that meets operational needs of eligible  
133.22 families and programs. The commissioner must give highest priority to applications from  
133.23 children who:
- 133.24 (1) have a parent under age 21 who is pursuing a high school diploma or a course of  
133.25 study for a high school equivalency test;
- 133.26 (2) are in foster care ~~or otherwise in need of protection or services; or;~~
- 133.27 (3) have been referred as in need of child protection services;
- 133.28 (4) have an incarcerated parent;
- 133.29 (5) have a parent in a substance use treatment program;
- 133.30 (6) have a parent in a mental health treatment program;
- 133.31 (7) have experienced domestic violence;
- 134.1 (8) have family income less than or equal to 185 percent of federal poverty level income  
134.2 in the current calendar year; or
- 134.3 ~~(8)~~ (9) have experienced homelessness in the last 24 months, as defined under the federal  
134.4 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, United States Code, title 42, section 11434a.
- 134.5 The commissioner may prioritize applications on additional factors including family  
134.6 income, geographic location, and whether the child's family is on a waiting list for a publicly  
134.7 funded program providing early education or child care services.

134.8 (b) The commissioner shall establish a target for the average scholarship amount per  
134.9 child based on the results of the rate survey conducted under section 119B.02.

134.10 (c) A four-star rated program that has children eligible for a scholarship enrolled in or  
134.11 on a waiting list for a program beginning in July, August, or September may notify the  
134.12 commissioner, in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, each year of the  
134.13 program's desire to enhance program services or to serve more children than current funding  
134.14 provides. The commissioner may designate a predetermined number of scholarship slots  
134.15 for that program and notify the program of that number. For fiscal year 2018 and later, the  
134.16 statewide amount of funding directly designated by the commissioner must not exceed the  
134.17 funding directly designated for fiscal year 2017. Beginning July 1, 2016, a school district  
134.18 or Head Start program qualifying under this paragraph may use its established registration  
134.19 process to enroll scholarship recipients and may verify a scholarship recipient's family  
134.20 income in the same manner as for other program participants.

134.21 (d) A scholarship is awarded for a 12-month period. If the scholarship recipient has not  
134.22 been accepted and subsequently enrolled in a rated program within ten months of the  
134.23 awarding of the scholarship, the scholarship cancels and the recipient must reapply in order  
134.24 to be eligible for another scholarship. A child may not be awarded more than one scholarship  
134.25 in a 12-month period.

134.26 (e) A child who receives a scholarship who has not completed development screening  
134.27 under sections 121A.16 to 121A.19 must complete that screening within 90 days of first  
134.28 attending an eligible program or within 90 days after the child's third birthday if awarded  
134.29 a scholarship under the age of three.

134.30 (f) For fiscal year 2017 and later, a school district or Head Start program enrolling  
134.31 scholarship recipients under paragraph (c) may apply to the commissioner, in the form and  
134.32 manner prescribed by the commissioner, for direct payment of state aid. Upon receipt of  
134.33 the application, the commissioner must pay each program directly for each approved  
135.1 scholarship recipient enrolled under paragraph (c) according to the metered payment system  
135.2 or another schedule established by the commissioner.

#### S1311-2

121.7 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 125A.13, is amended to read:

#### 121.8 **125A.13 SCHOOL OF PARENTS' CHOICE.**

121.9 (a) Nothing in this chapter must be construed as preventing parents of a child with a  
121.10 disability from sending the child to a school of their choice, if they so elect, subject to  
121.11 admission standards and policies adopted according to sections 125A.62 to 125A.64 and  
121.12 125A.66 to 125A.73, and all other provisions of chapters 120A to 129C.

288.8 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 126C.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

288.9 Subdivision 1. **Pupil unit.** Pupil units for each Minnesota resident pupil under the age  
288.10 of 21 or who meets the requirements of section 120A.20, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), in  
288.11 average daily membership enrolled in the district of residence, in another district under  
288.12 sections 123A.05 to 123A.08, 124D.03, 124D.08, or 124D.68; in a charter school under  
288.13 chapter 124E; or for whom the resident district pays tuition under section 123A.18, 123A.22,  
288.14 123A.30, 123A.32, 123A.44, 123A.488, 123B.88, subdivision 4, 124D.04, 124D.05, 125A.03  
288.15 to 125A.24, 125A.51, or 125A.65, shall be counted according to this subdivision.

288.16 (a) A prekindergarten pupil with a disability who is enrolled in a program approved by  
288.17 the commissioner and has an individualized education program is counted as the ratio of  
288.18 the number of hours of assessment and education service to 825 times 1.0 with a minimum  
288.19 average daily membership of 0.28, but not more than 1.0 pupil unit.

288.20 (b) A prekindergarten pupil who is assessed but determined not to be disabled is counted  
288.21 as the ratio of the number of hours of assessment service to 825 times 1.0.

288.22 ~~(c) A kindergarten pupil with a disability who is enrolled in a program approved by the~~  
288.23 ~~commissioner is counted as the ratio of the number of hours of assessment and education~~  
288.24 ~~services required in the fiscal year by the pupil's individualized education program to 875,~~  
288.25 ~~but not more than one.~~

288.26 ~~(c)~~ (c) A prekindergarten pupil who is not included in paragraph (a) or (b) and is enrolled  
288.27 in an approved voluntary prekindergarten program under section 124D.151 is counted as  
288.28 the ratio of the number of hours of instruction to 850 times 1.0, but not more than 0.6 pupil  
288.29 units.

288.30 ~~(e)~~ (d) A kindergarten pupil who is not included in paragraph (c) is counted as 1.0 pupil  
288.31 unit if the pupil is enrolled in a free all-day, every day kindergarten program available to  
288.32 all kindergarten pupils at the pupil's school that meets the minimum hours requirement in  
289.1 section 120A.41, or is counted as .55 pupil unit, if the pupil is not enrolled in a free all-day,  
289.2 every day kindergarten program available to all kindergarten pupils at the pupil's school.

289.3 ~~(f)~~ (e) A pupil who is in any of grades 1 to 6 is counted as 1.0 pupil unit.

121.13 (b) The parent of a student with a disability not yet enrolled in kindergarten and not open  
121.14 enrolled in a nonresident district may request that the resident district enter into a tuition  
121.15 agreement with elect a school in the nonresident district if:

121.16 ~~(1)~~ where the child is enrolled in a Head Start program or a licensed child care setting  
121.17 in the nonresident district; and, provided

121.18 ~~(2)~~ the child can be served in the same setting as other children in the nonresident district  
121.19 with the same level of disability.

UEH2497-1

5.21 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 126C.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

5.22 Subdivision 1. **Pupil unit.** Pupil units for each Minnesota resident pupil under the age  
5.23 of 21 or who meets the requirements of section 120A.20, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), in  
5.24 average daily membership enrolled in the district of residence, in another district under  
5.25 sections 123A.05 to 123A.08, 124D.03, 124D.08, or 124D.68; in a charter school under  
5.26 chapter 124E; or for whom the resident district pays tuition under section 123A.18, 123A.22,  
5.27 123A.30, 123A.32, 123A.44, 123A.488, 123B.88, subdivision 4, 124D.04, 124D.05, 125A.03  
5.28 to 125A.24, 125A.51, or 125A.65, shall be counted according to this subdivision.

5.29 (a) A prekindergarten pupil with a disability who is enrolled in a program approved by  
5.30 the commissioner and has an individualized education program is counted as the ratio of  
5.31 the number of hours of assessment and education service to 825 times 1.0 with a minimum  
5.32 average daily membership of 0.28, but not more than 1.0 pupil unit.

6.1 (b) A prekindergarten pupil who is assessed but determined not to be disabled is counted  
6.2 as the ratio of the number of hours of assessment service to 825 times 1.0.

6.3 ~~(c) A kindergarten pupil with a disability who is enrolled in a program approved by the~~  
6.4 ~~commissioner is counted as the ratio of the number of hours of assessment and education~~  
6.5 ~~services required in the fiscal year by the pupil's individualized education program to 875,~~  
6.6 ~~but not more than one.~~

6.7 ~~(c)~~ (c) A prekindergarten pupil who is not included in paragraph (a) or (b) and is enrolled  
6.8 in an approved voluntary prekindergarten program under section 124D.151 is counted as  
6.9 the ratio of the number of hours of instruction to 850 times 1.0, but not more than 0.6 pupil  
6.10 units.

6.11 ~~(e)~~ (d) A kindergarten pupil who is not included in paragraph (c) is counted as 1.0 pupil  
6.12 unit if the pupil is enrolled in a free all-day, every day kindergarten program available to  
6.13 all kindergarten pupils at the pupil's school that meets the minimum hours requirement in  
6.14 section 120A.41, or is counted as .55 pupil unit, if the pupil is not enrolled in a free all-day,  
6.15 every day kindergarten program available to all kindergarten pupils at the pupil's school.

6.16 ~~(f)~~ (e) A pupil who is in any of grades 1 to 6 is counted as 1.0 pupil unit.

289.4 ~~(f)~~ (f) A pupil who is in any of grades 7 to 12 is counted as 1.2 pupil units.

289.5 ~~(g)~~ (g) A pupil who is in the postsecondary enrollment options program is counted as

289.6 1.2 pupil units.

289.7 ~~(i)~~ For fiscal years 2018 through 2023, (h) A prekindergarten pupil who:

289.8 (1) is not included in paragraph (a), (b), or ~~(c)~~ (c);

289.9 (2) is enrolled in a school readiness plus program under Laws 2017, First Special Session

289.10 chapter 5, article 8, section 9; and

289.11 (3) has one or more of the risk factors specified by the eligibility requirements for a

289.12 school readiness plus program,

289.13 is counted as the ratio of the number of hours of instruction to 850 times 1.0, but not more

289.14 than 0.6 pupil units. A pupil qualifying under this paragraph must be counted in the same

289.15 manner as a voluntary prekindergarten student for all general education and other school

289.16 funding formulas.

289.17 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2024 and later.

289.18 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 126C.05, subdivision 3, as amended by Laws

289.19 2023, chapter 18, section 3, is amended to read:

289.20 Subd. 3. **Compensation revenue pupil units.** Compensation revenue pupil units must

289.21 be computed according to this subdivision.

289.22 (a) The compensation revenue concentration percentage for each building in a district

289.23 equals the product of 100 times the ratio of:

289.24 (1) the sum of the number of pupils enrolled in the building eligible to receive free lunch

289.25 plus one-half of the pupils eligible to receive reduced priced lunch on October 1 of the

289.26 previous fiscal year; to

289.27 (2) the number of pupils enrolled in the building on October 1 of the previous fiscal

289.28 year.

289.29 (b) The compensation revenue pupil weighting factor for a building equals the lesser of

289.30 one or the quotient obtained by dividing the building's compensation revenue concentration

289.31 percentage by 80.0.

290.1 (c) The compensation revenue pupil units for a building equals the product of:

290.2 (1) the sum of the number of pupils enrolled in the building eligible to receive free lunch

290.3 and one-half of the pupils eligible to receive reduced priced lunch on October 1 of the

290.4 previous fiscal year; times

290.5 (2) the compensation revenue pupil weighting factor for the building; times

290.6 (3) .60.

6.17 ~~(f)~~ (f) A pupil who is in any of grades 7 to 12 is counted as 1.2 pupil units.

6.18 ~~(g)~~ (g) A pupil who is in the postsecondary enrollment options program is counted as

6.19 1.2 pupil units.

6.20 ~~(i)~~ (h) For fiscal years 2018 through 2023, A prekindergarten pupil who:

6.21 (1) is not included in paragraph (a), (b), or ~~(c)~~ (c);

6.22 (2) is enrolled in a school readiness plus program under Laws 2017, First Special Session

6.23 chapter 5, article 8, section 9; and

6.24 (3) has one or more of the risk factors specified by the eligibility requirements for a

6.25 school readiness plus program,

6.26 is counted as the ratio of the number of hours of instruction to 850 times 1.0, but not more

6.27 than 0.6 pupil units. A pupil qualifying under this paragraph must be counted in the same

6.28 manner as a voluntary prekindergarten student for all general education and other school

6.29 funding formulas.

6.30 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for fiscal year 2024 and later.

290.7 (d) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) to (c), for voluntary prekindergarten programs under  
290.8 section 124D.151, charter schools, and contracted alternative programs in the first year of  
290.9 operation, compensation revenue pupil units shall be computed using data for the current  
290.10 fiscal year. If the voluntary prekindergarten program, charter school, or contracted alternative  
290.11 program begins operation after October 1, compensatory revenue pupil units shall be  
290.12 computed based on pupils enrolled on an alternate date determined by the commissioner,  
290.13 and the compensation revenue pupil units shall be prorated based on the ratio of the number  
290.14 of days of student instruction to 170 days.

290.15 ~~(e) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) to (c), for voluntary prekindergarten seats discontinued~~  
290.16 ~~in fiscal year 2024 due to the reduction in the participation limit under section 124D.151,~~  
290.17 ~~subdivision 6, those discontinued seats must not be used to calculate compensation revenue~~  
290.18 ~~pupil units for fiscal year 2024.~~

290.19 ~~(f)~~ (e) The percentages in this subdivision must be based on the count of individual  
290.20 pupils and not on a building average or minimum.

290.21 ~~(g)~~ (f) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) to ~~(f)~~ (e), for revenue in fiscal year 2025 only,  
290.22 the compensation revenue pupil units for each building in a district equals the greater of the  
290.23 building's actual compensation revenue pupil units computed according to paragraphs (a)  
290.24 to ~~(f)~~ (e) for revenue in fiscal year 2025, or the building's actual compensation revenue pupil  
290.25 units computed according to paragraphs (a) to ~~(f)~~ (e) for revenue in fiscal year 2024.

290.26 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2024 and later.

290.27 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 126C.10, subdivision 2d, is amended to read:

290.28 Subd. 2d. **Declining enrollment revenue.** ~~(a)~~ A school district's declining enrollment  
290.29 revenue equals the greater of zero or the product of: (1) 28 percent of the formula allowance  
290.30 for that year and (2) the difference between the adjusted pupil units for the preceding year  
290.31 and the adjusted pupil units for the current year.

291.1 ~~(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), for fiscal year 2024 only, prekindergarten pupil units~~  
291.2 ~~under section 126C.05, subdivision 1, paragraph (d), must be excluded from the calculation~~  
291.3 ~~of declining enrollment revenue.~~

291.4 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2024 and later.

135.3 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 126C.10, subdivision 2d, is amended to read:

135.4 Subd. 2d. **Declining enrollment revenue.** ~~(a)~~ A school district's declining enrollment  
135.5 revenue equals the greater of zero or the product of: (1) 28 percent of the formula allowance  
135.6 for that year and (2) the difference between the adjusted pupil units for the preceding year  
135.7 and the adjusted pupil units for the current year.

135.8 ~~(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), for fiscal year 2024 only, prekindergarten pupil units~~  
135.9 ~~under section 126C.05, subdivision 1, paragraph (d), must be excluded from the calculation~~  
135.10 ~~of declining enrollment revenue.~~

135.11 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2024 and later.

135.12 Sec. 7. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

135.13 Subdivision 1. **Department of Education.** The sums indicated in this section are  
135.14 appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Education for the fiscal years  
135.15 designated.

135.16 Subd. 2. **Developmental screening aid.** (a) For developmental screening aid under  
135.17 Minnesota Statutes, sections 121A.17 and 121A.19:

|        |    |   |              |             |
|--------|----|---|--------------|-------------|
| 135.18 | \$ | <u>4,350,000</u>  | <u>.....</u> | <u>2024</u> |
| 135.19 | \$ | <u>4,375,000</u>  | <u>.....</u> | <u>2025</u> |
| 135.20 |    | <u>(b) The 2024 appropriation includes \$349,000 for 2023 and \$4,001,000 for 2024.</u>               |              |             |
| 135.21 |    | <u>(c) The 2025 appropriation includes \$445,000 for 2024 and \$3,930,000 for 2025.</u>               |              |             |
| 135.22 |    | <u>Subd. 3. <b>Early childhood family education aid.</b> (a) For early childhood family education</u> |              |             |
| 135.23 |    | <u>aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.135:</u>  |              |             |
| 135.24 | \$ | <u>37,497,000</u>   | <u>.....</u> | <u>2024</u> |
| 135.25 | \$ | <u>40,743,000</u>   | <u>.....</u> | <u>2025</u> |
| 135.26 |    | <u>(b) The 2024 appropriation includes \$3,518,000 for 2023 and \$33,979,000 for 2024.</u>            |              |             |
| 135.27 |    | <u>(c) The 2025 appropriation includes \$3,775,000 for 2024 and \$36,968,000 for 2025.</u>            |              |             |
| 135.28 |    | <u>Subd. 4. <b>Early childhood programs at Tribal contract schools.</b> (a) For early childhood</u>   |              |             |
| 135.29 |    | <u>family education programs at Tribal contract schools under Minnesota Statutes, section</u>         |              |             |
| 135.30 |    | <u>124D.83, subdivision 4:</u>  |              |             |
| 136.1  | \$ | <u>68,000</u>   | <u>.....</u> | <u>2024</u> |
| 136.2  | \$ | <u>68,000</u>   | <u>.....</u> | <u>2025</u> |
| 136.3  |    | <u>(b) Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.</u>         |              |             |
| 136.4  |    | <u>Subd. 5. <b>Early childhood teacher shortage.</b> (a) For transfer to the Office of Higher</u>     |              |             |
| 136.5  |    | <u>Education for grants to Minnesota institutions of higher education to address the early</u>        |              |             |
| 136.6  |    | <u>childhood education teacher shortage:</u>  |              |             |
| 136.7  | \$ | <u>490,000</u>  | <u>.....</u> | <u>2024</u> |
| 136.8  | \$ | <u>490,000</u>  | <u>.....</u> | <u>2025</u> |
| 136.9  |    | <u>(b) Grant funds may be used to provide tuition and other supports to students.</u>                 |              |             |
| 136.10 |    | <u>(c) Up to five percent of the grant amount is available for grant administration and</u>           |              |             |
| 136.11 |    | <u>monitoring.</u>  |              |             |
| 136.12 |    | <u>(d) Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.</u>         |              |             |
| 136.13 |    | <u>(e) The base for fiscal year 2026 and later is \$700,000.</u>                                      |              |             |

136.14 Subd. 6. **Early learning scholarships.** (a) For the early learning scholarship program  
136.15 under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.165:

136.16 \$ 205,968,000 .... 2024

136.17 \$ 205,969,000 .... 2025

136.18 (b) This appropriation is subject to the requirements under Minnesota Statutes, section  
136.19 124D.165, subdivision 6.

136.20 (c) The base for fiscal year 2026 and later is \$105,974,000.

136.21 Subd. 7. **Educate parents partnership.** (a) For the educate parents partnership under  
136.22 Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.129:

136.23 \$ 49,000 .... 2024

136.24 \$ 49,000 .... 2025

136.25 (b) Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

136.26 Subd. 8. **Head Start program.** (a) For Head Start programs under Minnesota Statutes,  
136.27 section 119A.52:

136.28 \$ 35,100,000 .... 2024

136.29 \$ 35,100,000 .... 2025

136.30 (b) Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

137.1 Subd. 9. **Home visiting aid.** (a) For home visiting aid under Minnesota Statutes, section  
137.2 124D.135:

137.3 \$ 391,000 .... 2024

137.4 \$ 309,000 .... 2025

137.5 (b) The 2024 appropriation includes \$41,000 for 2023 and \$350,000 for 2024.

137.6 (c) The 2025 appropriation includes \$38,000 for 2024 and \$271,000 for 2025.

137.7 Subd. 10. **Kindergarten entrance assessment initiative and intervention program.** For  
137.8 the kindergarten entrance assessment initiative and intervention program under Minnesota  
137.9 Statutes, section 124D.162:

137.10        \$            281,000    ....    2024

137.11        \$            281,000    ....    2025

137.12        Subd. 11. **Learning with Music program.** (a) For a grant to the MacPhail Center for  
137.13 Music to expand the Learning with Music program:

137.14        \$            250,000    ....    2024

137.15        \$            250,000    ....    2025

137.16        (b) The MacPhail Center for Music must use the grant funds received under this  
137.17 subdivision to:

137.18        (1) expand direct programming to four early childhood center locations in each year of  
137.19 the grant, with a focus on meeting the needs of children experiencing economic hardship  
137.20 in the metropolitan area; and

137.21        (2) create and deliver professional development training opportunities to early childhood  
137.22 educators statewide, both online and in person, that are based on current successful elements  
137.23 of the Learning with Music program.

137.24        (c) Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

137.25        (d) The base for fiscal year 2026 is \$0.

137.26        Subd. 12. **ParentChild+ program.** For a grant to the ParentChild+ program:

137.27        \$            1,800,000    ....    2024

137.28        \$            1,800,000    ....    2025

137.29        (b) The grant must be used for an evidence-based and research-validated early childhood  
137.30 literacy and school readiness program for children ages 16 months to four years at its existing  
138.1 suburban program location. The program must include urban and rural program locations  
138.2 for fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

138.3        (c) Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

138.4        Subd. 13. **Quality rating and improvement system.** (a) For transfer to the commissioner  
138.5 of human services for the purposes of expanding the quality rating and improvement system  
138.6 under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.142, in greater Minnesota and increasing supports  
138.7 for providers participating in the quality rating and improvement system:

138.8        \$            1,750,000    .....    2024

138.9        \$            1,750,000    .....    2025

138.10        (b) The amounts in paragraph (a) must be in addition to any federal funding under the  
138.11 child care and development block grant authorized under Public Law 101-508 in that year  
138.12 for the system under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.142.

138.13        Subd. 14. **Reach Out and Read Minnesota.** (a) For a grant to Reach Out and Read  
138.14 Minnesota to establish a statewide plan that encourages early childhood development through  
138.15 a network of health care clinics:

138.16        \$            250,000    .....    2024

138.17        \$            250,000    .....    2025

138.18        (b) The grant recipient must develop and implement a plan that includes:

138.19        (1) integrating children's books and parent education into well-child visits;

138.20        (2) creating literacy-rich environments at health care clinics by providing books to clinics  
138.21 for visits outside of Reach Out and Read Minnesota parameters, for waiting room use, or  
138.22 for volunteer readers to model read-aloud techniques for parents where possible;

138.23        (3) working with public health clinics, federally qualified health centers, Tribal sites,  
138.24 community health centers, and clinics that belong to health care systems, as well as  
138.25 independent clinics in underserved areas; and

138.26        (4) training medical professionals on discussing the importance of early literacy with  
138.27 parents of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.

138.28        (c) The grant recipient must fully implement the plan on a statewide basis by 2030.

138.29        Subd. 15. **School readiness.** (a) For revenue for school readiness programs under  
138.30 Minnesota Statutes, sections 124D.15 and 124D.16:

138.31        \$            33,683,000    .....    2024

138.32        \$            33,683,000    .....    2025

139.1        (b) The 2024 appropriation includes \$3,368,000 for 2023 and \$30,315,000 for 2024.

139.2        (c) The 2025 appropriation includes \$3,368,000 for 2024 and \$30,315,000 for 2025.